

turn have children at a young age. Mr. Speaker, our society suffers when our children start life with such odds against them.

We must do also better because an ounce of prevention is indeed worth a pound of cure—prevention works. Studies show that the federal government spends more than \$39 billion in assistance to families begun by teen parents and only \$131 million to prevent teen pregnancy. When we work with our kids to prepare them to avoid pregnancy, through good parental communication and involvement in their lives, education, and family planning programs, the numbers are clear: unintended birth decline.

What a better way, Mr. Speaker, to reduce abortion in this country than to prevent unintended pregnancies? I hope today we can all renew our efforts to support and fund teen pregnancy prevention programs.

SALUTE TO LARRY CARPENTER

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 1998

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to an outstanding public servant on his retirement, Ventura County Sheriff Larry Carpenter. Sheriff Carpenter protected the people of Ventura County, California, for almost 30 years, serving the community as a defender of the law and an educator of safety. I am proud to say Larry has been my friend for many, many years.

As a committed and highly ethical officer of the law, Larry quickly climbed the ladder of rank and responsibility within the department. Joining the Ventura County Sheriff's Department in 1969 he has served in many capacities, from public speaking, to personnel and training, to narcotics, to managing court services and custody. In 1974, Larry was promoted to senior deputy sheriff and later that same year, promoted again, making him a sergeant. In 1984, Larry was appointed undersheriff and managed the operations of the entire department as second in command. Larry's long law enforcement culminated in 1993 when he became sheriff.

Those who have worked with, and for, Larry have described him as a loyal person with the finest ethical standards. His interpersonal and organizational skills made him a good manager, but Larry's stellar professional attributes were not his only strong points—they simply served as a vehicle for his creative and ambitious ideas which he implemented for the good of his community.

Larry developed the Sheriff department's "hostage negotiation team" and was an active proponent of opening the Todd Road Jail, which boasts an innovative inmate management philosophy. He led the fight to continue the use of military surplus helicopters, saving millions of local tax dollars annually, and implemented a platoon response plan for tactical emergencies. In addition, he opened "storefront" operations to deliver sheriff's services into the neighborhoods. These are merely few of sheriff Carpenter's achievements which have made real differences in the lives of Ventura County's citizens.

You cannot put a price on safety, or thank someone enough for putting their life on the

line to protect others. We can never really repay the heroism and bravery which protects us each day, which often goes unnoticed. But we can say thank you: Thank you sheriff Larry Carpenter for your years of service protecting our families and for making our community a safer and better place to live. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing my friend Larry a long and happy retirement.

TRIBUTE TO RONALD SNYDER

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 1998

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a great teacher, Mr. Ronald Snyder, on his retirement from St. John's Lutheran School in Red Bud, Illinois.

Over the last 43 years, Mr. Snyder has shared his many talents with the community. Mr. Snyder joined the St. John's staff in 1955 and has taught both the seventh and eighth grade classes. In his early years he also served the school as Principal, Choir Director and Youth Director.

For over a decade, Mr. Snyder has been taking the eighth graders, who he teaches all subjects to, on a trip to the Nation's Capital. Mr. Snyder has helped the students experience this once in a lifetime trip through many hours of hard work and fundraising efforts.

Mr. Snyder was raised in Columbus, Indiana. From there he went to teacher training school at Concordia Lutheran College in River Forest, Illinois where he majored in Elementary Education. Right out of college he was called to teach at St. John's Lutheran School. Over the years, he has taught 786 students and has served with sixty-two other teachers. As the eighth grade teacher for the majority of his dedicated service to St. John's he has influenced many young lives. Mr. Snyder who lives in Red Bud, Illinois with his wife Eunice, will retire at the end of this school year.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. Ronald Snyder on his retirement after many devoted years of service to the children of St. John's and the entire community.

INTRODUCTION OF THE ASSISTING ACQUISITION OF RUSSIAN MATERIAL ACT

HON. TED STRICKLAND

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 1998

Mr. STRICKLAND. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing legislation, the Assisting Acquisition of Russian Material (AARM) Act, along with my colleague ED WHITFIELD of Kentucky, which would provide the Department of Energy with "standby" authority to purchase Russian uranium under the U.S.-Russian-HEU Agreement signed in 1993. The Russian Federation and the United States entered into this agreement to ensure that highly enriched uranium (HEU) from dismantled nuclear warheads would be used for peaceful purposes only. In January 1994, President Clinton announced that the U.S. and Russia signed a

contract to purchase \$12 billion of highly enriched uranium over a 20-year period. The U.S. purchase of 500 metric tons of this material is clearly a crucial national security initiative. This foreign policy measure provides an important incentive to the Russian Federation to continue dismantling its nuclear weapons and ultimately helps to safeguard the U.S. and the rest of the world from the threat of a nuclear incident.

I strongly support this foreign policy objective which serves our national security interests and those interests of the entire world. However, under this U.S.-Russian Agreement, the United States Enrichment Corporation (USEC) will serve as the Executive Agent responsible for acquiring the downblended Russian uranium which it will then sell as commercial nuclear reactor fuel. The status of USEC as the Executive Agent under this agreement troubles me because, at this time, the government is privatizing the industry responsible for implementing the U.S.-Russian HEU Agreement. A private USEC acting as the Executive Agent will face conflicting obligations to maximize profits and to fulfill its requirements under both the U.S.-Russian Agreement and the statutory purposes guiding the privatization process of the corporation.

Under the laws governing privatization of USEC, Congress specifically outlined eight statutory criteria, including a requirement that privatization lead to "continued operation" of the gaseous diffusion plants in Portsmouth, Ohio and Paducah, Kentucky. However, if USEC is forced to purchase significant quantities of Russian uranium under the HEU Agreement, the corporation may be forced to reduce work at the plants or to close one entirely. Clearly, the role of USEC as the Executive Agent under the Agreement could lead the newly privatized corporation to choose between the national security purpose of importing higher priced Russian material and its own desire to maximize profits. Furthermore, the public objective of purchasing specific quantities of Russian uranium directly conflicts with and adversely affects the statutory criteria calling for continued operation of the gaseous diffusion plants.

In order to help resolve these potential conflicts and ensure that U.S. foreign and domestic policy objectives are met, the AARM Act states that the Department of Energy will have the authority to purchase, hold and resell the downblended HEU imported from Russia under the U.S.-Russian Agreement. This legislation helps to preserve the livelihoods of those in the communities surrounding the gaseous diffusion plants while ensuring that the U.S. continues to purchase Russian uranium to reduce the threat posed to the world by dismantled nuclear warheads. The bill represents a common-sense solution, ensuring that the government maintains responsibility over our national security interests and that the private sector can function without being saddled with unnecessary burdens.

TRIBUTE TO PRESIDENT LEE

HON. JOE SCARBOROUGH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 1998

Mr. SCARBOROUGH. Mr. Speaker, Taiwan, known as the Republic of China, marked its